

SYN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

June 26, 2006

Santa Monica has approximately 1,200 to 2,000 homeless persons at any point in time. It is estimated that 20% to 40% are chronically homeless. Many of these individuals engage in repeated interaction with law enforcement and the criminal justice system.

One chronically homeless client, over the last three years, had 88 police contacts, 62 jail visits, and 48 paramedic calls. The City has conservatively estimated that its annual costs to provide police, paramedic and Santa Monica jail services to homeless individuals can reach \$8,000 per person. The associated costs to the County in jail, court and hospital expenses are undoubtedly much more.

The City of Santa Monica funds a robust continuum of care which provides an extensive range of successful homeless services. The City has proposed a pilot Homeless Community Court which would add an additional tool to the continuum by serving chronically homeless clients whose ability to move forward toward self-sufficiency is hampered by outstanding legal violations, tickets, and warrants. The Court would also serve as a mechanism to compel individuals to seek services, and would help lessen the “revolving door” impact on the court system of persons cited for repeated quality of life violations.

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

BURKE \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

The total estimated County costs for a one year, half-day pilot would be \$476,237 (approximately \$42,000 in court costs, and \$434, 237 for stabilization services which would support the goals of the court.) These costs would be highly leveraged with \$1,196,400 in services and permanent housing funded through the following City of Santa Monica programs: Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless and Addicted to Alcohol, the Santa Monica Housing Authority's rental subsidy program for chronically homeless seniors and the Chronic Homeless Program Team.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board instruct the CAO to:

1. Collaborate with the City of Santa Monica to establish a pilot Homeless Community Court for chronically homeless persons in fiscal year 2006-2007.
2. Fund a pilot half-day Homeless Community Court to be held once per month for an initial year, with the new County Homeless Prevention Initiative funding, not to exceed \$500,000.
3. Report back in 90 days on the progress of establishing this Homeless Community Court.
4. Monitor and report back at the end of the initial year on the outcomes of this pilot project including any reduction in chronic homelessness in the Santa Monica area; and on the potential for replicating this Homeless Community Court model.